tion, the production of fertilizers has also increased during the last three years.

(b) No target has been laid down to increase the indigenous production to the level of its requirements. Seventh Plan also recognises that there shall be a significant gap between demand and indigenous production of fertilizers and the aim is to augment the production in order to contain the gap to a reasonable level. With this end in view, a number of new projects have been taken up for implementation.

Import of Captive Power Plants by the National Fertilizers Limited

*275. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Fertilizer Limited has been allowed to import two '30 Megawatt' captive power Plants for its Panipat and Bhatinda units despite the fact that such plants can be manufactured by BHEL and procured indigenously; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor indicating the drawbacks that indigenous plants suffer from as compared to the imported ones?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S DHILLON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government permitted the import of plant and machinery required for seting up the captive power plants keeping in view the quicker delivery schedules and the lower prices of the foreign vendors. The imported equipment is also expected to have greater operational efficiency.

Agitation by fishermen against use of trawlers

*276 SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governments attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in 'The Times of India, dated the 15th October, 1986 to the effect that the National Fishermen's Forum representing trade unions of fishermen all over the country have planned a nation-wide agitation in March, 1987 to press for the rights of traditional fishermen *vis-a-vis* those using trawlers; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON): (a) Government of India have no official information about the nation-wide agitation by the National Fishermen's Forum. However, there was a report in 'The Times of India' dated 15th October, 1986 regarding launching of a nation-wide agitation by National Fishermen's Forum in March, 1987 to press for the rights of traditional fishermen vis-a-vis those using trawlers.

(b) Government of India had issued requisite guidelines and circulated a Model Bill in 1979 for demarcating various zones of fishing for traditional, mechanised and large boats. Based on the guidelines and Model Bill, State Governments of Kerala, Orissa, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu have enacted suitable legislation to protect the interests of fishermen especially those belonging to traditional sector. Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka have passed Executive orders in this regard. The remaining States and Union Territories are considering enactment of suitable ligislation.

Paddy Procurement in Punjab and Haryana

*277. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be please to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge quantity of paddy has arrived in the mandis of Punjab and Haryana during the current season;